

Customer No.: 31561
Docket No.: 13435-US-PA
Application No.: 10/710,267

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding nonfinal Office Action mailed August 31, 2006. In this Office Action, Claims 1-5, 8 and 12 are rejected, and Claims 6-7 were allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims 1-5, 8 and 12 are respectfully requested.

Discussion of Office Action Rejections

The Office Action rejected claims 1-4 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wortman et al. US Patent 6,447,135 (hereinafter Wortman).

In response to the rejection to claims 1-4, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and submits that claims 1-4 are in condition for allowance.

With respect to claim 1, as originally filed:

Claim 1. A method of fabricating a light guide plate, comprising the steps of:
providing a thin film having a transfer material layer thereon;
providing a molding machine having a cavity therein;
disposing the thin film inside the molding machine such that at least a portion of the transfer material layer is located within the cavity; and
forming a light guide plate body inside the cavity such that the transfer material layer is transferred on the light guide plate body.

Applicant submits that such a method of fabricating a light guide plate as set forth in

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claim 1 is neither taught, disclosed, nor suggested by Wortman or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination.

Wortman fails to disclose, teach or suggest a step of "disposing the thin film inside the molding machine such that at least a portion of the transfer material layer is located within the cavity" and a step of "forming a light guide plate body inside the cavity such that the transfer material layer is transferred on the light guide plate body" which are required for the method of fabricating a light guide plate as set forth in claim 1. In fact, Wortman only discloses a method of making a lightguide with a directly secured reflector in title, figure 8 and column 2 lines 25-26. However, Wortman fails to disclose, teach or suggest the lightguide is formed inside a cavity of a molding machine. Consequently, it is hard for a person having skill in the art to discover that there is inherently a molding machine with a cavity for molding the lightguide in title, figure 8 and column 2 lines 25-26 of Wortman. Even if there is inherently a molding machine with a cavity for molding the lightguide in title, figure 8 and column 2 lines 25-26 of Wortman, Wortman still fails to disclose, teach or suggest that the transfer material layer is located within the cavity while forming a light guide plate body inside the cavity. Namely, Wortman fails to disclose, teach or suggest that the transfer material layer is transferred on the light guide plate body while forming the light guide plate body inside the cavity.

Accordingly, the present invention as set forth in claim 1 should not be considered as being anticipated by Wortman, and claim 1 should be allowable.

If independent claim 1 is allowable over the prior art of record, its dependent claims 2-4 are allowable as a matter of law, because these dependent claims contain all features

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of their respective independent claim 1. *In re Fine, 837 F.2d 1071 (Fed. Cir. 1988).*

In response to the rejection to claim 8, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and submits that claim 8 is in condition for allowance.

With respect to previously presented claim 8:

Claim 8. A light guide plate, comprising:

a light guide plate body having a light output surface, a bottom surface, at least a light incident surface and a plurality of side surfaces, wherein the light incident surface and the side surfaces are adjacent to and positioned between the bottom surface and the light output surface; and

a transfer material layer disposed on the bottom surface, the transfer material layer comprises:

a light-scattering patterned layer disposed on the bottom surface; and

a light-reflecting layer disposed over the bottom surface and covering the light-scattering patterned layer, wherein the transfer material layer and the light guide plate body are formed into a unity, and there is substantially no gap between the transfer material layer and the light guide plate body.

Applicant submits that such a light guide plate as set forth in claim 8 is neither taught, disclosed, nor suggested by Wortman or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination.

Wortman fails to disclose, teach or suggest that the transfer material layer comprises both of a light-scattering patterned layer and a light-reflecting layer. In fact, Wortman

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only discloses "A pattern of adhesive 78 is formed, such as by pattern transfer, onto the reflector 76," (Column 5, lines 19-20). Otherwise, Wortman discloses "the adhesive 78 is used to directly secure the reflector 76 to the back surface 70 of the lightguide 68"(Column 5, lines 20-22), "the reflector 76 is directly secured to the lightguide 74 by a continuous layer of adhesive 73"(Column 5, lines 49-51) and "the reflector 26 may be formed on the back surface 20 using a deposition process" (Column 3, lines 55-56). Namely, Wortman fails to disclose, teach or suggest that the transfer material layer comprises the light-reflecting layer.

Accordingly, the present invention as set forth in claim 8 should not be considered as being anticipated by Wortman, and claim 8 should be allowable.

The Office Action also rejected claims 5 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wortman in view of Wimberger-Friedl US Patent 5,845,035 (hereinafter Wimberger-Friedl).

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 5 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wortman in view of Wimberger-Friedl because a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established by the Office Action.

To establish a prima facie case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), each of three requirements must be met. First, the reference or references, taken alone or combined, must teach or suggest each and every element in the claims. Second, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to combine the references in a manner resulting in the claimed invention. Third, a reasonable expectation of success

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must exist. Moreover, each of the three requirements must "be found in the prior art, and not be based on applicant's disclosure." See M.P.E.P. 2143, 8th ed., February 2003.

As described in the above discussion, Wortman fails to disclose, teach or suggest a step of "disposing the thin film inside the molding machine such that at least a portion of the transfer material layer is located within the cavity", a step of "forming a light guide plate body inside the cavity such that the transfer material layer is transferred on the light guide plate body" and a feature of "the transfer material layer comprises a light-scattering patterned layer and a light-reflecting layer". Meanwhile, Wimberger-Friedl fails to disclose, teach or suggest the same steps and feature. Therefore, Applicants submits a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established by the Office Action since not each and every step or element in claims 5 and 12 has been taught or suggested by Wortman and Wimberger-Friedl.

Accordingly, the claims 5 and 12 of the present invention should not be considered as unpatentable over Wortman in view of Wimberger-Friedl, and claims 5 and 12 should be allowable.

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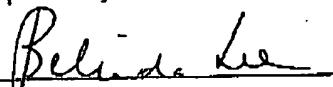
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all pending claims 1-8 and 12 are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Date :

Nov. 30, 2006

Respectfully submitted,


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